

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 26 as follows, without prejudice or disclaimer to continued examination on the merits:

1. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly for a fiber optic cable connector polishing apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of segments holding a plurality of different types of fiber optic cable connectors, a portion of each different type of fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment; and

a hub interconnecting with each of said plurality of segments,

wherein the portion of each fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment is polished by a corresponding polishing pad of the polishing apparatus,

wherein a polishing medium aids polishing between corresponding fiber optic cable connectors and corresponding polishing pads, and

wherein at least one of said plurality of segments has an opening provided therein for receiving and holding a predetermined fiber optic cable connector at an angle of one of six and eight degrees relative to a plane perpendicular to said hub.

2. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said hub holds said plurality of segments stationary.

3-5. (canceled)

6. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of segments has an opening provided therein for receiving and holding a fiber optic cable connector perpendicular to the plane of said hub.

7. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of segments comprises six segments.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly for a fiber optic cable connector polishing apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of segment pairs, each segment pair holding a plurality of different types of fiber optic cable connectors, a portion of each different type of fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment; and

a hub interconnecting with each of said plurality of segment pairs,

wherein at least one of said plurality of segment pairs has at least two openings provided therein for receiving and holding at least two predetermined fiber optic cable connectors at an angle of one of six and eight degrees relative to a plane perpendicular to said hub.

11. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein the fiber optic cable connectors of each segment pair are adjacent to each other.

12. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein the fiber optic cable connectors of each segment pair are nonadjacent to each other.

13. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said hub holds said plurality of segment pairs stationary.

14-16. (canceled)

17. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein at least one of said plurality of segment pairs has at least two openings provided therein for receiving and holding at least two fiber optic cable connectors perpendicular to the plane of said hub.

18. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein said plurality of segment pairs comprises three segment pairs.

19. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein the portion of each fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment is polished by a corresponding polishing pad of the polishing apparatus.

20. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein a polishing medium aids polishing between corresponding fiber optic cable connectors and corresponding polishing pads.

21. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly for a fiber optic cable connector polishing apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of segments, said segments being arranged into a plurality of groups including a first group and a second group, wherein the first group of said segments holds a plurality of a first type of fiber optic cable connectors, and the second group of said segments holds a plurality of a second type of fiber optic cable connectors, a portion of each different type of fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment; and

a hub interconnecting with each of said plurality of segments,

wherein at least one of said plurality of segments has a first opening provided therein for receiving and holding a first predetermined fiber optic cable connector parallel to a plane perpendicular to said hub, and

wherein at least one of said plurality of segments has a second opening provided therein for receiving and holding a second predetermined fiber optic cable connector at a predetermined angle relative to said plane perpendicular to said hub.

22. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein each of the first and second groups of said segments comprises three of said segments holding one of said plurality of said first type of fiber optic cable connectors and said plurality of said second type of fiber optic cable connectors.

23. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein the first group of said segments comprises four of said segments holding said plurality of said first type of fiber optic cable connectors, and the second group of said segments comprises two of said segments holding said plurality of said second type of fiber optic cable connectors.

24. (original): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein the plurality of groups includes a third group of said segments that holds a plurality of a third type of fiber optic cable connectors.

25. (previously presented): A polishing fixture assembly as recited in claim 24, wherein each of the first, second, and third groups of said segments comprises two of said segments holding one of said plurality of said first type of fiber optic cable connectors, said plurality of said second type of fiber optic cable connectors, and said plurality of said third type of fiber optic cable connectors.

26. (currently amended): A fiber optic cable connector polishing apparatus, comprising:

a polishing fixture assembly having a plurality of segments holding a plurality of different types of fiber optic cable connectors, a portion of each different type of fiber

optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment, said polishing fixture assembly further having a hub interconnecting with each of the plurality of segments; and

a polishing pad assembly having a plurality of wedges, each wedge aligning with a corresponding fiber optic cable connector held in the polishing fixture assembly, said polishing pad assembly further having a base interconnecting with each of the plurality of wedges,

wherein at least two of said wedges have differing heights relative to each other,
and

wherein at least one of said wedges is aligned at a predetermined angle relative to said corresponding fiber optic cable connector.